

# GRANTS for Cities and Towns

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**HOTLINE**<sup>TM</sup>


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December 10, 2004

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## Museums and Libraries

### Funding to evaluate school library media programs

The American Library Association's American Association of School Librarians (AASL) continues to accept applications for its AASL/Highsmith Research Grant.

The grant, established in 1993, is awarded to individuals who conduct research geared toward evaluating the impact of school library media programs on learning and education. Up to \$5,000 will be awarded. Up to two grants may be awarded each year, therefore, the grants will be up to \$2,500 apiece.

The deadline is Feb. 1, 2005. Ten copies of the application are requested by AASL. The grant selection committee evaluates applications on the following criteria:

- demonstrated ability of the applicant or applicants to take on and complete the project successfully;
  - proof that time and resources have been secured;
  - support and commitment from other organizations;
  - clarity of the proposal;
  - personal resume of the applicant; and
  - personal membership in ALA/AASL at the time of application.
- In the 11 years the AASL/Highsmith Research Grant program has been operating, 14 grants have been awarded. Past recipients include:
- Potential to evaluate the impact of school media library programs on learning and education;
  - originality of the research project;
  - potential for replication;
  - "Study of LMS's Attributes for Ongoing Program Assessment" by Kathy Latrobe and Rhonda Taylor;

(continued on page 3)

**Eligibility:** School library media specialists, library educators, library information science or education professors. Applicants must be American Association of School Librarians personal members.

**Deadline:** Feb. 1, 2005.

**Funds:** Up to \$5,000.

**Contact:** American Association of School Librarians, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; (800) 545-2433, Ext. 4386; [aasl@ala.org](mailto:aasl@ala.org).

**DEADLINE UPDATE**

<b>Agency/Program</b>	<b>\$ Available*</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Reported in</b>
<b>Arts and Humanities</b>				
NEH's "Recovering Iraq's Past" grants	\$30,000 to \$100,000	Open	<i>iraq-initiative@neh.gov</i>	11/25/04
<b>Community Development</b>				
<b>Tony Hawk Foundation</b>	<b>\$1,000 to \$25,000</b>	<b>March 1, 2005</b>	<b><i>questions@tonyhawkfoundation.org</i></b>	<b>12/10/04</b>
7-Eleven Inc.	\$1,000 to \$2,500	Open	Nancy Lear P.O. Box 711 Dallas, TX 75221	10/10/04
Washington Mutual	Varies	Ongoing	(800) 258-0543	9/25/04
American Eagle Outfitters Foundation	Varies	Open	150 Thorn Hill Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086	9/25/04
<b>Corporate Support</b>				
The Kodak Company	Varies	Between Jan. 1 and April 30, 2005	Director Community Affairs Eastman Kodak Company Rochester, NY 14650-0552	11/25/04
Monsanto Fund	\$250 to \$1.2 million	Jan. 1, 2005	President Monsanto Fund 800 N. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63167	11/10/04
<b>Education</b>				
<b>Research in Disabilities Education grants</b>	<b>\$4.4 million</b>	<b>Feb. 28, 2005</b>	<b>(703) 292-4655</b>	<b>12/10/04</b>
HP Technology grants	\$30,000	Feb. 15, 2005	HP Technology For Teaching@hp.com	11/25/04
<b>Environment</b>				
USDA waste management funding	\$3.5 million	Dec. 31, 2004	<i>Ssauline@rus.usda.gov</i>	11/25/04
NFWF and NOAA grant	Up to \$50,000	Jan. 31, 2005	<i>leslie.ricketts@nfwf.org</i>	11/10/04
<b>Foundation Profiles</b>				
<b>EFA grants</b>	<b>Varies</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b><i>efa@efaw.org</i></b>	<b>12/10/04</b>
<b>Foundations</b>				
MacArthur Foundation	Varies	Open	(312) 726-5922	10/25/04
<b>Human Services</b>				
<b>Department of Health and Human Services grants</b>	<b>\$1.5 million</b>	<b>Jan. 14, 2005</b>	<b><i>mj145m@nih.gov</i></b>	<b>12/10/04</b>
Rotary Foundation	Up to \$1,000	Open	<i>grants@rotaryintl.org</i>	11/25/04
Health and Human Services disaster grants	Up to \$3.75 million	No later than 60 days following a major disaster declared by the President of the U.S.	(301) 443-4456	11/10/04
<b>Law Enforcement</b>				
Department of Justice	Open	Varies	(800) 421-6770	10/10/04
<b>Museums and Libraries</b>				
<b>AASL grants</b>	<b>Up to \$5,000</b>	<b>Feb. 1, 2005</b>	<b><i>aasl@ala.org</i></b>	<b>12/10/04</b>
AASL leadership grants	Up to \$1,750	Feb. 1, 2005	AASL/ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant Committee c/o American Association of School Librarians 50 E. Huron St. Chicago, IL 60611	11/25/04
<b>Science and Technology</b>				
NSF grants	\$1.5 million	Jan. 10, 2005	<i>rboyd@nsf.gov</i>	11/25/04

**Bolded grants are in this issue.** ★ All amounts are approximate and may be based on past giving records

(continued from page 1)

- "Does *Accelerated Reader* Improve Children's Reading Ability and Achievement?" by Linda Jordan and Diane Stanley; and
- "Information Literacy Services — Alternative Assessments" by Roberta Ponis,

Dian Walster, and Lynda Welborn.

### More info online ...

For more information, visit <http://www.ala.org/aaslTemplate.cfm?Section=highsmithgrant>.

## Foundation Profiles

### EFA supports bettering humanity through education

The Educational Foundation of America (EFA) is a philanthropic organization founded by Richard Prentice Ettinger and his wife, Elsie P. Ettinger, in 1959. Ettinger's career was closely aligned with education. He started out as a professor at New York University, and later started the Prentice-Hall Publishing Company with a friend.

Ettinger designed the foundation and its board with flexibility for the future, knowing that the issues facing people in the middle of the 20th century wouldn't necessarily be the same as those facing future generations.

While there is no deadline for letters of inquiry, the foundation asks that letters be no more than two pages, printed back-to-back on one sheet of recycled, unbleached paper. The letter of inquiry should address the purpose of the pro-

#### Editor's Tip:

The foundation is specific about the letter of inquiry: It should be no more than two pages printed back-to-back on one sheet of recycled, unbleached paper. The EFA website includes a link to information about which brands of paper qualify. We suggest you follow its requirements for the letter of inquiry to the letter.

posed project, the project's duration, pending funding sources, the total estimated cost, and the total amount budgeted for the organization for the current year. The letter should include identifying information on the organization as well — its mission, founders, affiliations, region of focus, and so forth. Proof of 501(c)(3) status should also accompany the letter.

(continued on next page)

**Eligibility:** Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) status and those that are not private foundations as defined in the internal revenue code.

**Deadline:** Open.

**Funds:** Varies.

**Contact:** Diane M. Allison, Executive Director, Educational Foundation of America, 35 Church Lane, Westport, CT 06880; (203) 226-6498; fax (203) 227-0424; [efa@efaw.org](mailto:efa@efaw.org).

## In the News

### President announces mentoring grants for children of prisoners

President George W. Bush recently announced \$45.6 million in grants for individuals who mentor children of prisoners. The grants are intended to help some of the two million children who have at least one incarcerated parent.

When the Mentoring Grants for Children program was announced, the Department for Health and Human Services (HHS) said that mentors are the heroes who provide a trusting relationship with a child or youth in need.

"Children of prisoners need mentors. They need caring, responsible, and committed adults who can be role models, counselors, and teachers," said Dr. Wade F. Horn, HHS assistant secretary for children and families.

The three-year program has so far mentored 6,000 kids. The grants are dispensed through the HHS Administration for Children and Families, which received 581 applications this year.

Panels were held for two weeks in May in Washington, D.C., and 164 applicants were selected, totaling \$35 million. The recipients included: Volunteers of America in Louisiana, the Anchorage Children's Home in Florida, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Michigan. The grantees recently received the first installments of the three-year grants. The grants are attracting national attention because of how the children are benefiting from them.

In addition to the \$46.5 million in grants, five tribal grantees won mentoring awards totaling \$1.7 million. And, another \$8.7 million was awarded to organizations for their second year of mentoring service.

## In the News

### Shelter Plus Program assists tenants

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, through the Shelter Plus Care Program, handed out \$5.5 million in grant money to help provide sponsor- and tenant-based rental assistance for persons with disabilities and their families.

The program now operates in 21 countries, serving individuals with severe mental illness who become homeless, or end up living in and out of jails or on street corners and infested pavements. The grant money helped save many lives and has now converted some into vibrant individuals. The program has demonstrated that recidivism rates were lessened in hospitals, jails, and on the streets.

The same program made successful interventions by providing housing services to local parties in Ohio. Highly effective housing-specific programs such as HAP (Housing Assistance Program) continue to be provided in Ohio and Washington state.

### Arizona State University uses grant to fight illiteracy

Arizona State University (ASU) has made some impressive gains in its fight against illiteracy by making well-planned use of grant money.

The reading skills of children, after benefiting from a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, have impressed educators everywhere.

The three-year grant is an integral part of the No Child Left Behind Act, a multidimensional law that targets educationally disadvantaged students at the pre-collegiate level.

The grant money, which was

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EFA can take several months to respond to letters of inquiry, so the foundation doesn't consider urgent or emergency proposals. If a letter is of interest to the board of directors, the applicant will be notified and invited to submit a full proposal.

Areas of interest for EFA include, but are

not limited to, the environment, overpopulation and reproductive freedom, Native Americans, the arts, education, medicine, and human services.

### More info online ...

For more information on EFA and the letter of inquiry guidelines, visit <http://www.efaw.org/page6.html>.

## Community Development

### Professional skateboarder gives back to communities

Known throughout the world as one of the greatest skateboarders ever to hop on a board, Tony Hawk does more than just work on aerials and 360-degree, gravity-defying maneuvers. He's created the Tony Hawk Foundation in an effort to promote the construction and preservation of high-quality public skate parks in low-income areas in the United States.

The foundation caters to parks that:

- Include local skaters in the design process;
- are designed and built by qualified and experienced skate park contractors;
- are in areas that currently do not have skateboarding facilities;

- don't charge money;
- are open during daylight hours, 365 days a year; and
- encourage skaters to look after their own safety and the safety of others without restricting their access to the park.

The Tony Hawk Foundation receives hundreds of applications each year, and it only funds projects that match almost all of its criteria. If the proposed skate park is not located in a low-income area, grant seekers are not likely to receive funding. The grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000. The deadline is March 1, 2005.

### More info online ...

For more information, visit <http://www.tonyhawkfoundation.org>.

**Eligibility:** Public charities; state or local agencies, including public school systems or public projects; and start-up organizations.

**Deadline:** March 1, 2005.

**Funds:** \$1,000 to \$25,000.

**Contact:** Tony Hawk Foundation, 1611-A S. Melrose Drive #360, Vista, CA 92081; [questions@tonyhawkfoundation.org](mailto:questions@tonyhawkfoundation.org).



## Education

### Funding to assist persons with disabilities

The National Science Foundation's Directorate for Education and Human Resources is accepting proposals for Research in Disabilities Education (RDE) grants.

The RDE program aims to boost the participation of persons with disabilities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.

It is estimated there will be between 10 and 12 awards (six to seven standard grants, three to four continuing grants, and one cooperative agreement). The deadline for preliminary proposals is Feb. 25, 2005. Optional letters of intent

are due on March 7, 2005, and the full proposal is due by April 18, 2005.

*The RDE program aims to boost the participation of persons with disabilities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.*

#### More info online ...

For more information, visit <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04610/nsf04610.htm>.

**Eligibility:** Unrestricted.

**Deadline:** Feb. 28, 2005 for preliminary proposals.

**Funds:** \$4.4 million.

**Contact:** Ted A. Conway, Ph.D., Program Director, Research in Disabilities Education, 4201 Wilson Blvd., #815, Arlington, VA 22230; (703) 292-4655; [tconway@nsf.gov](mailto:tconway@nsf.gov).

## Human Services

### Trying to advance treatment of HIV/AIDS

The Department of Health and Human Services is accepting applications for an initiative aimed at elucidating the risks and benefits of using complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) to manage HIV/AIDS. The funding will go to institutions that have extensive histories of research on HIV/AIDS.

- To identify potential roles for CAM therapies in managing HIV/AIDS;
- to understand mechanisms of action of CAM interventions; and
- to stimulate CAM research at leading HIV/AIDS institutions.

The objectives of the program are:

The deadline to apply is Jan. 14, 2005.

## In the News

(continued from page 4)

awarded in 1995, has demonstrated to ASU that the needs of disadvantaged kids could be effectively combated by the blend of accurately identifying needy students and a timely intervention of action through money, by providing materials in the classroom, and training preschool teachers to teach important oral and written language skills.

#### Early literacy programs get \$1 million boost

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded \$1 million in grant money to the city of Boston in an effort to strengthen early learning opportunities in the city. The check was presented to Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino on Oct. 21, 2004 by Joan E. Ohl, HHS commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families.

The funds will go to activities that deliver high-quality literacy enhancements to young children, their families, and educators. The money will serve over 5,400 children, 2,000 parents, and 950 educators with literacy activities, parenting supports, and professional development activities for child-care staff.

Seven more grants totaling over \$2.2 million will be awarded for other projects serving low-income or special needs children and families in Boston.

#### Thanks, but no thanks

The Ford and Rockefeller foundations awarded \$1.15 million to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), but it was turned down.

The ACLU didn't accept the money, explaining that new anti-terrorism restrictions demanded by institutions

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## In the News

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make it unable to accept the funding. Anthony Romero, the ACLU executive director, noted that parts of funding agreements could obstruct free speech and include words like "bigotry."

"The ACLU cannot effectively defend the rights of all Americans if we do not stand up for those same rights ourselves," Romero said.

Both foundations do not allow grant winners to use funding to promote violence, terrorism, or bigotry, nor can they use the money for anything other than charitable purposes that do not support terrorism.

The new language was ironed out following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and put into effect in June 2003.

Source: *Newsday*

### Elderly residents get federal boost

A nonprofit organization in Columbus, Ohio, that builds affordable housing units is set to receive a pair of grants that total \$8.2 million. The funding will go toward building residences for the elderly in Texas and Michigan.

National Church Residences will receive \$5.1 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to build 54 apartments in Sterling Heights, Mich. The organization also received nearly \$3.2 million to construct a 43-unit complex in Alief, Texas. The new apartments will sit adjacent to a 62-apartment residence building that the agency has been operating since 1996.

National Church Residences owns or manages more than 240 senior and family-based communities in the United States and Puerto Rico and five health-care centers in Ohio. Construction on both projects will likely begin late next year.

Source: *Columbus Business First*

## More info online ...

For more information, visit <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AT-05-004.html>.

**Eligibility:** Institutions that have a National Institutes of Health grant for a Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), a Developmental Center for AIDS Research (D-CFAR), or be a unit of an Adult AIDS Clinical Trial Group (AACTG), a Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trial Group (PACTG), or the Community Program for Clinical Research on AIDS (CPCRA) (including affiliate units).

**Deadline:** Jan. 14, 2005.

**Funds:** \$1.5 million.

**Contact:** Morgan N. Jackson, M.D., M.P.H., National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Suite 401, Bethesda, MD 20892-5475; (301) 402-1278; [mjl45m@nih.gov](mailto:mjl45m@nih.gov).

## Success Story

### Grant success comes from strong community networks

by William Atkinson

There was a time when it was relatively easy to qualify for grants based on the quality of the grant application. If you were able to utilize the services of a highly-qualified grant writer, you had a pretty good chance of winning grants even if the programs for which you were seeking funding were average, or maybe even below average.

More and more these days, granting agencies are looking for tangible evidence of strong programs. While some agencies are willing to fund programs of a stand-alone nature, more and more agencies are leaning toward funding programs that rely on multigroup support from the communities.

For some communities, gaining this

support is not as difficult as it is for others, due to the fact that they have always had to rely on community cooperation and support. Other communities that have relied on business donations may find the path to creating this synergy more difficult. As many of these communities find that their local businesses are tapped out (the result of constantly being "hit up" by various local groups for contributions), they are having to create strong community networks to qualify for outside grants.

One community that has always relied on strong non-business support is Elkhart, Ill., a rural town of about 1,000 people. Here, the community relies almost exclusively on outside grants and

succeeds by developing a strong network of community groups that work together in a spirit of cooperation to first obtain the grants and then use them to maximum advantage.

Recently, Elverado Community Unit School District 196 received a five-year \$140,000 grant that assists after-school programs focusing on reading and math through the U.S. Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Center.

The key to success in winning the grant, according to Karl Maple, Ph.D., director of the grant program for the school district, was the level of community support and involvement it was able to demonstrate to the DOE. "In fact, we received additional points in the scoring process for creating a formal coalition of community organizations," he says.

Maple and his colleagues tapped into the resources of a number of local organizations.

► John A. Logan College provided student interns in education to work in the program. "This was a win-win, in that it provided us with the staffing we needed and provided the college students with experience they would need when they became teachers," he says.

► Nearby Southern Illinois University helped work out a contract to get two Americorp students for this next academic year.

► The Elverado school district provided resources to help with after-school tutoring programs and to help students with their homework. "In the summer, the cultural arts teachers work with the students on a musical or

theatrical production," says Maple.

► The Elkhaville Village government provided the school with the use of the civic center for the afterschool program. The grant helps to pay for some of the costs of utilities and custodial services, so it is not such a financial burden on the village budget.

► The community churches encouraged their members to participate as volunteers. They also provided some economic support by purchasing some afterschool materials, supplies, and snacks. The new emphasis on faith-based initiatives has made church involvement even more important in winning certain grants, according to Maple. "In this grant, for example, church involvement was very much encouraged," he says. "We received additional points for involving faith-based organizations." Church volunteers are encouraged to work with the students on academic issues. "Of course, we emphasize that they need to stay away from evangelizing and proselytizing," he adds.

► The police department provided the program with the use of its computer lab. "This gives them the opportunity to work with the at-risk students and get to know them one-on-one," he says.

► The park board is sharing some of its recreational programs and offering field trips, which provide opportunities for the students, especially in the summer.

Gaining the cooperation of community groups in the first place, and then subsequently getting them to work together, is easier said than done. Maple offers some suggestions based on his experience on how to do so successfully.

#### **Publisher**

Dennis Hofmaier

#### **Managing Editor**

Julie DiMauro, Esq.

*jdimauro@quinlan.com*

#### **Editor in Chief**

Ryan Wood, *ryan@quinlan.com*

#### **Editors**

Annie Archambault

Carol Johnson Perkins, Esq.

Elizabeth Purcell, Esq.

Lesley Rosenbloom, Esq.

Delora Skelton

Laura Starczewski, Esq.

Heidi Taylor

Colin A. Thakkar, Esq.

#### **Contributors**

William Atkinson

Teodros Kiros

#### **Circulation Director**

Peter Pearsall

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23 Drydock Ave.

Boston, MA 02210-2387

(617) 542-0048

fax: (617) 345-9646

email: [info@quinlan.com](mailto:info@quinlan.com)

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## In the News

### Music to their ears

Students at a Bath, N.Y., elementary school received grant money from The ARTS, an organization that administers state funding for arts-based learning.

Vernon E. Wightman Primary School will use the funding to stage an opera, "Billy Goats Gruff," on March 10.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime, comprehensive opportunity for Bath students to experience opera full circle," said Brenda Wright, the school's music teacher.

The third grade students will learn the basics of opera before they hit the stage. On Dec. 10, they got an idea of what an opera looks like when they attended a live Tri-Cities Opera performance in Binghamton.

"What made (Wright's) proposal for funding work is how complete she makes it work across other curriculum," said Lynn Rhoda, The ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes community arts development director. "That cross-curriculum is totally what she's hitting on."

Source: *The Corning Leader*

Initially, he contacted each group individually to see if it would be willing to provide support. The key here was to emphasize to each group that the goal was to help at-risk students. "Of course, hardly anyone could be opposed to that," he says.

Next, he worked with each group to identify the type of support they could and would provide. "It might be one day a week or even one hour a week," he says.

Then, he brought all of the groups together to begin working in cooperation with each other. They began brainstorming and seeing how the things they could do would dovetail with what everyone else was doing.

Then, as the groups became involved and continued to work more closely with each other, many of them were willing to

commit even more time and resources to the program.

Maple hasn't had complete success however. "We have a senior citizens group that meets at the community center once a week," he says. "I wanted to get them involved, but haven't had a lot of success." Maple believes that they could become great mentors for the students. "I think they could become foster grandparents," he says. "However, I haven't been successful in this, yet. Maybe they just don't feel comfortable with the idea of working with students." Still, with the strong network of support in the community, Elkhart is destined for success with future grants, with or without the senior citizens.

*William Atkinson has been a full-time freelance business writer since 1976, specializing in workplace issues. He lives in Carterville, Ill.*

## FEEDBACK

Are there any special issues that you would like to see covered in *Grants for Cities and Towns Hotline*?

If so, send your idea to: Ryan Wood  
Quinlan Publishing Company  
23 Drydock Ave.  
Boston, MA 02210-2387  
fax: (617) 345-9646  
email: ryan@quinlan.com

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